

THE South-Carolina Gazette.

Containing the freshest Advices Foreign and Domestick.

THURSDAY JUNE 15, 1738.

The Remainder of the Essay upon Inoculation.

THE remote Cause of this Disease as well as of many others lying without the Compass of our limited Understandings, it is clear that our best Reasonings upon this Subject, must be taken from Observations on the common Appearances of the Distemper it self, the general Effect of Remedies, and Event of the Symptoms.

Experience therefore having taught us that crude, full and vigorous Bodies, and such as have been accustomed to a free or inflammatory Way of living, were generally seiz'd upon Infection, with a more intense Degree of the Distemper, Inoculation pretends to the Advantage of singling the proper Objects for Infection to operate mildly upon, or to a Power, by Method previous to Infusion, to render them such. Every one must observe here, that in saying this of Inoculation, I do not confine my self to the meer Circumstances of scratching one or more little Issues in some part of the Body, and conveying a little of the variolous Matter into them, the common Practice of many Women in *Turky* and many Negroes in *Africa*, and which indeed it is harder to say who cannot perform than who can; but that by Inoculation here I mean a Power of disposing a Body judiciously to receive the most favourable Species of the *Small-Pox* by Infusion, join'd to a Skill of obviating, as far as Art can do, the most unexpected ill Accidents that may possibly supervene in the Course of the Disease it self. This Distinction evidently requires a general Knowledge of the prin-

ciples of Physick, and the particular Nature of this Disease; an Acquaintance with the Force of Remedies (commonly called a Knowledge of the *Materia Medica*) as well as a considerable Sagacity in discovering the peculiar Habits of different Bodies, in the Person who exercises Inoculation. Different Bodies will necessarily require different Degrees and Modes of Evacuation; some may be prepar'd most effectually by alterative Medecines, and such moderate Evacuants as are eminently so; many will need no Evacuation or Preparation at all; and it is e'en possible that a few who are determined to be inoculated, may instead of Physick, actually want a more vigorous Habit and better Plight of Body than they enjoy, to become proper Subjects of it. Children shou'd with us generally use some good Worm-Purges before-hand, lest the Distemper shou'd be aggravated or confounded by the Accession of a Worm-fever. People of rigid Fibres, thick Skins and dense heavy Fluids will require a particular and appropriate Preparation; but the most general Indication must be, to attenuate the Crudity, and evacuate the exceeding Plenitude of the Humours, with as little Diminution of the vital Strength as may be. But here I may be ask'd, since this Preparation seems of such Consequence towards the Success of Inoculation, why may not a Person thus happily dispos'd either by Art or Nature, throw himself in the Way of being infected by the gentlest Pock he can meet with: To which I answer, that if such a one has absolutely determin'd against the Operation, it is possible he may act very prudently in

in doing this: But if he is only in Suspence, and having a further Curiosity, is complaisant enough to consider e'en such indifferent Information as I can furnish him with in this Case, I shall observe to him, first, that it is very possible he may not be infected when he desires it, as the Disease has not till very lately appear'd to be epidemical, nor greatly contagious, in Proportion to the Objects of it, and Eruption has generally happen'd something later than usual from Inoculation it self; so that he might lose the Benefit of his present happy Disposition, to receive the Distemper favourably; and if Medicine had any considerable Share in procuring that Habit, it may be lost again by many natural Accidents, and he might afterwards receive the common Infection when he was very unfit for it, and at a Season when the Disease it self might prove of a severer Kind. Secondly, that it is more than probable, that Infection in the natural Way is generally taken in by Inspiration, where the Lungs may receive an early ill Impression; or by the Smell, where the Brain and Nerves may be immediately disorder'd from the first Assaults of the pocky Effluvia or Steams: For where they are suck'd into the external Pores, which I imagine does not happen so frequently as the other, it is reasonable to expect a milder Infection, as they are admitted into the Road of Circulation, without a previous Attack on any noble Organ. And indeed this last Manner of receiving the Pock, has the nearest Resemblance of any to the artificial Insertion of it. The Difference lies most essentially in this, that Infection in the natural Way, thro' whatever Parts it is communicated, is effected by the most volatile and active Emanations of the Distemper, which like the fiery and corroding Parts of Liquors first ascend in Distillation; and that Inoculation is effected by the milder and less active Principles, which like the more phlegmatick Parts are longer coming over, but which however under the Vehicle of Pus or Matter, contain a Venom and Energy sufficient in a suitable *Nidus* to propagate a Disease (*sui generis*) of their own Kind. That the peculiar Virulence of some Poysons may consist in their most volatile Parts, is manifest from the Effect of many chymical Fumes, and the Attempts that have been made to poison by the Smell only; and that the Vehicles of Poysons may become less acrid and venomous in time, from the Exhalation of such Bodies, is evident from the Juice of the Cassia Root, which being certain and instantaneous Death upon its first Expression, becomes insipid and innocent in a few Days: This I have been assur'd of by a Gentleman of good Sense and Integrity now in *Parbados*, besides that the great Consumption of the Root for Bread is a sufficient Illustration of it.

To reason yet a little further from Analogy,

which is all we are able to do on many Subjects, it is observable that the very Steams in drawing off a Parcel of Strong Spirits, are often attended with a more sensible Effect than the taking in a reasonable Measure of them in any diluting Mixture. Those Spirits themselves grow softer and consequently less hurtful from Age and Air, for if they are kept closely stop'd, in Vessels that do not permit a Transpiration of their more fervent Parts, they kindle in some time to Violence, and for want of sufficient Space to expand in, break with a Kind of Explosion thro' the Glass that imprisons them. It seems not very improbable, that the Secondary Fever which happens in the confluent Pock when it is scabb'd, may also be owing to a Retention of some variolous Steams, which having less Minuteness and Volatility than those which first transpir'd, and meeting with a greater Obstruction to their Passage from the incrustated Pock, are, by the superior Resistance of the Solids, return'd into the Circulation, where they renew the Fever, which is only a Luctation of Nature, to free herself from Particles whose Residence is incompatible with the Order of the animal Oeconomy, or Safety of the Machine itself. If it were needful to evince this, it must be consider'd that the Matter which is taken about the time of scabbing for Inoculation, must contain the Principles of the Disease which effected it, which Disease it cou'd not otherwise impart; and Dr. Mead relates a Case of his own Knowledge, where there was a third Succession of Pustules, the Disease not being fully terminated till about thirty Days. A smaller Specimen of the like Recrudescence of this Distemper has occur'd e'en to my little Observation.

'Tis said that a very distinct Kind is ever the Consequence of Inoculation, and I must confess it has happen'd such to all the inoculated but one that I have seen: This must undoubtedly prevent some Mortality, and a great deal of Hazard and Trouble, by keeping off the secondary Fever, which depends entirely (under a proper Regimen) on the Confluence or Multitude of the Pustules: And which kills a vast Majority of those who die by the *Small-Pox*.

It is objected to Inoculation, that it does not always convey a Pock, and where it fails, that the Person is ever after liable to Eruptions, and many other Disorders from impure Juices. To speak impartially as I have ever design'd to do, I believe some Failures of this Kind have happen'd; but then the same Impartiality obliges me to confess my Opinion that they have happen'd rarely. There is a Case publish'd of a Lady who was inoculated, upon whom the Pock did not appear till 11 Weeks afterwards; during which Interval she was troubled with Flushings and Restlessness, but never confin'd, till at length Eruption happen'd.

happen'd while she was at the Play-house, which proceeding happily, terminated her former Complaints. In this Case it was controverted, whether she did not receive a natural Infection; and indeed it is impossible to determine certainly about it, tho' the Distemper is said to have proceeded as favourably as that from Inoculation generally does. As the natural Disease at first spread very slowly here, and as several that had a variolous Fever and all the Symptoms of Infection, recover'd entirely without Eruption, by a remarkable Sweating the fourth or fifth Day, it might seem reasonable to expect that Inoculation wou'd not generally take effect, yet have I not seen or hear'd of but one yet, to whom it has been administer'd in vain; tho' the ordinary Term of Eruption has been manifestly protracted with many, which has doubtless been owing to the same Constitution of Air, that appear'd not to greatly dispos'd to extend the natural Disease. The best Way to prevent such Disorders as may happen in Failure of an effectual Infusion, seems to be continuing a good Discharge by the Incisions, till they appear well dispos'd to heal, and to use some proper Sweetners and Evacuants to correct and eradicate any grosser Remains in the Constitution.

It has been said also, that Persons receiving the Distemper by Inoculation, are liable to the constitutional Infirmities of the Body the Pock was taken from: I say it has been said, because if I had ever understood that it had been prov'd by any Instance, I should certainly relate it: But to admit it for Brevities Sake, and because there is a Possibility that it may be so, this is evidently no Objection against the Practice, but a Caution as to the Habit the Pock is taken from. Much may possibly depend upon the Quality of the Matter that is infus'd; but there is certainly much more in the Disposition of the Body it is infus'd into. I can hardly think it is worth saying any Thing to the vulgar Error of those being liable to a second Infection, who have taken the Pock by Inoculation; They are just as liable as those who have had it the common Way, and can be no more so.

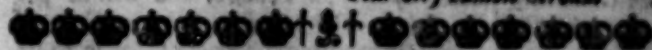
It this light Dissertation on a Matter of such Importance should appear to another Person of equal Candour and better Abilities, to contain any material Errors, which the Author has not observ'd and could not intend, as the Discovery may prove in some Degree an Obligation on the Society it self, he will not be the last to confess his particular Gratitude to the generous Observer.

As I am a very indifferent Casuist, I shall not presume to examine the Weight of those moral Scruples that disturb many worthy People on this Head. The most satisfactory Conclusion that has occur'd to my self is, that the Use of Inoculation is very lawful for those who think it so, and unlawful for those who think it otherwise, as long as they are of that Opinion. There is no Doubt but a Parent must be very exquisitely afflicted to lose a Child by Inoculation, but if he had lost 3 or 4 in the natural Way, while he saw this Method generally successful, and never applied it at Home, I am apt to think the more he was capable of reflecting on his Conduct the less he would care to do it.

To conclude, tho' I cannot help thinking upon the Whole, that Inoculation is generally the safest and pleasantest Way of passing thro' this Disease, yet certainly it is most necessary and least exceptionable, when the Malady is epidemical with Violence and Mortality: And as there is undoubtedly a Possibility of its miscarrying, every Person that becomes a Subject of it, ought to prove such, from his own free Judgment and cheerful Election. A Warmth in recommending it, and giving the little Oper-

tion the Air of a Mystery, may probably have its Advantages for a While; but a Man of Sense must soon reflect that in all Cases of real Import, a temperate and disinterested Conduct is necessary to fixing the Esteem of Persons of Discernment. On the other Hand, if there be any violent Declainers against the Practice, among Gentlemen of the Profession, I would intreat the few of them who are qualified for that Honour by Nature and Art, to consider whether the World may not mistake their Zeal against the Method, for a personal Envy, and impute all their Eloquence in such a Case to their repining at the sudden Good of another: And as it has been said, that where the Philosopher ends, the Physician begins, it may be worth reflecting how far such Imputations may be consistent with their Characters, who in their Conduct as well as their Intellects and Educations should necessarily be distinguished from the great Vulgar and the small. To the rest who may have luckily deceiv'd themselves and others into an Opinion that they know, I shall kindly recommend the Precept of Pythagoras, in this Debate, lest the repeated Tokens of their natural Shallowness and acquir'd Obscurity, should at length be forcible enough to operate to their Disadvantage with their discerning Admirers. I am, Sir,

Your very humble Servant



CHARLES-TOWN,

We have had such excessive hot Weather, that Yesterday one Man, belonging to the *Seaford* dropt down dead in the Street, and another died on board one of the Vessels in this Harbour of Heat.

We hear that since Number of Whites and Blacks have been inoculated of the Small Pox, that Distemper is now become more epidemical, and several have died, among whom some of those who had undergone the Operation. We hope however the Artists by keeping an exact and true Account of such as have died by Infusion and of such as have died naturally, will make it appear that the general Good of Mankind is their only Motive for inflicting and propagating a Distemper, and that purchasing the same at the Risque of one's Life is preferable to a Resignation to the Will of the supreme Author of Nature.

Custom-House, Charlestown,

Entered inwards,

Snow Martha, Jos: Parkinson from Madeira.

Entered out,

Snow Bettsey, Alex. Duncumb for London.

Sloop Endeavour, H: Garrison for Jamaica.

Clear'd for Departure.

Ship Dantzick Merchant, Hen: West to Cowes.

Sloop Monimia, Th. Petty to Providence.

EXPORTED from this PLACE since Nov. 1, 1757.

Rice 32397 Barrels. Pitch 1503. Tar 4484. Turpentine 720. Whereof 5522 Barrels of Rice to the Southward of *Cape Finisterre*.

PRICES of the following GOODS.

Rice 4 l.	Flour per C. 6 l.
Pitch per Bar. 40 s.	Milkbread 12 l.
Tar per Bar. 32 s. 6 d.	Shipbread 5 l.
Turpentine 7 s. 6 d.	Middling bread 6 l. 10 s.
Corn per B. 17 s. 6 d.	White 9 l.

WHEREAS the collecting the Poor Tax in Times past has been attended with great Trouble and Inconveniency (as well as Loss to the Parish) this is to give Notice to the Inhabitants, that the Assessment will be compleated, and the Subscriber appointed to collect at the same time the General Tax is paid, that all Persons are desired to prepare accordingly.

Peter Dallas.

Just imported a choice Parcel of MADEIRA WINE, and to be sold by *Bisford & Osmond*.

Run away from *James Osmond*, a Negro Fellow, named *Jonathan* alias *John Dallas*, well known in Town. Whoever takes him up and brings him to his Master shall have 5 l. reward.

Brought to Goal in Charlestown,

June 9. *Dallas*, a Negro Boy, belonging to Capt. *John*, taken up in Charlestown per *John Scott*.

June 12. *Prince*, a run away Negro Fellow, taken up at Mr. *St. John's* Plantation at Fox Run by *W. St. John* and *James Taylor*.